



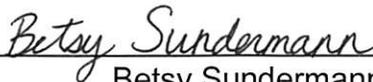
**Betsy Sundermann**  
*Cincinnati City Councilmember*

September 25, 2020

## MOTION

**WE MOVE** that the City of Cincinnati allow for a variety of celebration activities for Halloween to proceed this year, informed by guidance from the Cincinnati Health Department.

**WE FURTHER MOVE** that City Council shall not add any additional barriers to celebration activities other than those established by the Cincinnati Health Department and the Ohio Department of Health.

  
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Betsy Sundermann

## STATEMENT

As Governor Mike DeWine has left the decision to allow Halloween activities to local governments, the Ohio Department of Health has provided guidance for best practices. "Communities set the time themselves and they will make the determination about that. That will not change...They will do that in consultation with their local health departments...Parents, in turn, will do what parents do and make a decision if their child will go out trick-or-treating," said DeWine, during his Halloween Guidelines press conference.

We shall follow any order established by the Cincinnati Health Department, who is being asked to clarify any rules and guidelines for families to follow in order for the citizens of Cincinnati to safely participate in the annual celebration of Halloween festivities.

Most parts of trick-or-treating can be done while observing the mask and social distancing mandates. Masks can easily be worn on, under, or with the costumes and outfits of participants, and it is believed these events would not cause a significant increase in unwanted and unprotected contact due to the transient nature of the events.

It is recommended that extra precautions be taken, such as avoiding leaving out a large bucket of candy that many people may touch and keeping hand sanitizer handy for both trick-or-treaters and those giving out candy. However, given the overall infection status of the city, the potential risk of allowing for this cultural event to take place is not great enough to justify banning the celebrations outright.